

8-1814

21 February 1973

COUNTRY NORTH VIETNAM

DOI MID-JULY 1967

SUBJECT SIGHTING OF TWO U.S. PILOTS IN THIEU CHAU VILLAGE,
THIEU HOA DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE, NORTH VIETNAM

ACQ VIETNAM, SAIGON (14 FEBRUARY 1973)

SOURCE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
Date 20 AUG 1978

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~
~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

[REDACTED]

1. AT ABOUT 1000 HOURS ONE DAY IN MID-JULY 1967, TWO U.S. PILOTS WERE CAPTURED BY NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) SOLDIERS AFTER THEIR PLANES HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN BY NVA ANTIAIRCRAFT GUNS AT THE HAM RONG BRIDGE, THANH HOA PROVINCE, NORTH VIETNAM.

19-50N
105-45E

[REDACTED] GAVE THE DATE OF HIS OBSERVATION AS EARLY JUNE 1967 BY THE LUNAR CALENDAR. THIS WOULD MAKE THE DATE OF HIS OBSERVATION ABOUT MID-JULY 1967 ON THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR.) BOTH PILOTS BAILED OUT IN RED PARACHUTES. ONE OF THEM LANDED IN A RICE FIELD IN THIEU CHAU VILLAGE, THIEU HOA DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE, ABOUT SIX KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF THE HAM RONG BRIDGE. THE OTHER PILOT LANDED IN AN UNIDENTIFIED VILLAGE IN DONG SON DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE, ABOUT 13 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF THE HAM RONG BRIDGE. THE FIRST PILOT'S PLANE CRASHED IN THIEU CHAU VILLAGE, ABOUT ONE KILOMETER FROM WHERE THE PILOT LANDED.

2. AFTER BEING CAPTURED THE PILOT WHO LANDED IN DONG SON DISTRICT WAS BROUGHT TO THIEU CHAU VILLAGE ON AN NVA TRUCK. HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO GET OFF THE TRUCK AND AFTER ABOUT FIVE MINUTES THE PILOT WHO WAS CAPTURED IN THIEU CHAU VILLAGE WAS ALSO PUT ON THE TRUCK AND THEY WERE BOTH DRIVEN AWAY IN THE DIRECTION OF HANOI.

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~
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[REDACTED] OBSERVED THE PILOT CAPTURED IN THIEU CHAU VILLAGE FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES AND THE OTHER PILOT FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES AT A DISTANCE OF FOUR METERS.

3. BOTH PILOTS WERE CAUCASIAN, APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH, AND WERE NOT WOUNDED. THE PILOT WHO LANDED IN THIEU CHAU VILLAGE WAS ABOUT 27 YEARS OLD, ^{69"}1.75 METERS TALL, ^{176#}WEIGHED ABOUT 80 KILOS, HAD A HEAVY BUILD, A WIDE FOREHEAD, A SQUARE FACE, AND BLOND, CREW-CUT HAIR. THE SECOND PILOT WAS ABOUT 22 YEARS OLD, WEIGHED ^{154#}^{176#}BETWEEN 70 AND 80 KILOS, HAD BLOND HAIR, LONG SIDEBURNS, AND WAS CLEAN SHAVEN. [REDACTED] WAS UNABLE TO ESTIMATE THE HEIGHT OF THIS PILOT SINCE THE PILOT WAS SEATED IN THE TRUCK.) BOTH PILOTS HAD THEIR FLIGHT SUITS AND BOOTS TAKEN AWAY FROM THEM IN EXCHANGE FOR NORTH VIETNAMESE PJJAMAS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY WERE CAPTURED.

4. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY USMACV JCRC 7TH AIR FORCE
USARV NAVFORV 525TH MI GP 7602ND AIG OSI AT SAIGON: SENT TO
CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~NO FURTHER DISCLOSURE~~
~~TO ANYONE OUTSIDE~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]